

ATTACHMENT 2
CEQA NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Glenn S. Russell, Ph.D., Planning and Development

The project or activity identified below is determined to be exempt from further environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as defined in the State and County Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA.

APN: N/A

Case No.: N/A

Location: Countywide

Project Title: Santa Barbara County Coastal Resiliency Project Phase I Agreement for Services with ESA PWA

Project Description: Planning and Development has received grant funding from the Climate Ready Grant Program for Coastal Hazard Modeling and the development of a Vulnerability Assessment. Phase I of the Coastal Resiliency Project includes Coastal Hazard Modeling and the development of a Coastal Hazard Vulnerability Assessment, in order to bolster understanding of sea level rise and climate change impacts. Phase I includes developing two regional databases (a resource database and a policy and planning tools database) in order to have useful information for making high resolution planning level decisions. Environmental Science Associates (ESA) will be modeling climate change scenarios and developing these databases in order to help staff produce a Vulnerability Assessment.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Santa Barbara Planning and Development

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: ESA

Exempt Status: (Check one)

- ☐ Ministerial
- ☒ Statutory Exemption
- ☐ Categorical Exemption
- ☐ Emergency Project
- ☐ Declared Emergency

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section: CEQA Section 15306 exempts basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. These may be strictly for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded.

Reasons to support exemption findings: The Agreement for Services is for a third party independent contractor to provide technical assistance to support lead agency preparation a Coastal Hazard Model and Vulnerability Assessment. The Agreement for Services qualifies for an exemption under CEQA Guidelines Section 15306 as the project involves planning studies for identification of possible future actions that have not been approved, adopted, or funded by the County.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Heather Allen

Telephone: (805) 884- 8082

Department/Division Representative: _____ Date: _____

Acceptance Date: _____

Distribution: Hearing Support Staff

Date Filed by County Clerk: _____